ANCHURAGE WATER & WASTEWATER UTILITY



Tom Fink, Mayor 3000 Arctic Boulevard Anchorage, Alaska 99503-3898 (907)

February 1, 1990



Owned by the Municipality

of Anchorage

Ms. Julie Howe Department of Environmental Conservation 3061 C Street, Suite 1350 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 DEGENVED FEB 0 71990

> OCEAN PROGRAMS SECTION EPA - RESIDU 10

Dear Ms. Howe:

Subject:

Point Woronzof Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES/301(h) Permit Renewal--Site Specific Standards Request

On January 6, 1990, we met with EPA Region X staff, Carla Fisher, Chuck Rice, and Fletcher Shives. This meeting was to continue our discussions on site specific standard requirements for the Point Woronzof WWTP NPDES permit renewal application.

Our consultant, CH2M HILL, was prepared to make several suggestions for site specific standards when Carla Fisher told us that Region X had just been informed of a decision by EPA Headquarters. EPA will only require that the receiving water heavy metals standards apply to the dissolved fraction of any sample taken within a state designated mixing zone. EPA Headquarters has concluded that the extremely high suspended solids concentration in upper Cook Inlet includes substantial naturally present heavy metals that are not biologically available. A site specific mixing zone will be required for chromium (Cr), copper (Cu), mercury (Hg), nickel (Ni), lead (Pb), and zinc (Zn).

This letter is our request to ADEC that the state designate a site specific standards mixing zone as shown on the attached figure for the six heavy metals listed above. This zone has a radius of 740 meters, centered 30 meters shoreward of the diffuser, with a sector and segment removed. The surface area of this zone is 928,000 square meters. A dilution of 550:1 occurs at the edge of this zone, at the peak day 1995 flow rate of 67 million gallons per day.

We are very encouraged that only the portion of the heavy metals that are biologically available need to be measured. As you know, the principal reason there is scarcity of marine biota near the Point Woronzof outfall is not due to the effluent, but is due to the severe physical stresses present in upper Cook Inlet.

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Please let us know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

J. Kris Warren

Wastewater Treatment Superintendent Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility

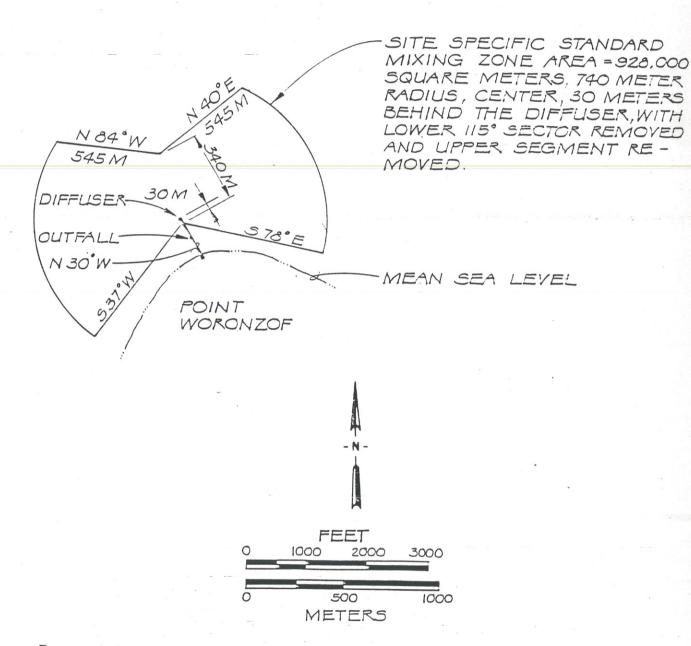
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Richard L. Besse, P.E., General Manager, AWWU Dan Robison, P.E., EPA Alaska Operations Office Carla Fisher, EPA Region X, Seattle

Floyd Damron, P.E., ČH2M HILL

Attachment

February 1, 1990 ANC26264.A1



Proposed site specific standards mixing zone for heavy metals.